Capital City Capers

The News Organ of the Capital City Squares
A Member Club of the IAGSDC

"It Was the Best of Times, It Was the Worst of Times"

We don't feel qualified to comment on our nation's actions in the Middle East, except to hope for the quick return home of our troops, many of whom are brothers and sisters. But we do feel qualified to comment on the recent activities and endeavors of Capital City Squares. When we haven't been watching CNN, we have been square dancing, or making plans to.

The new year finds Club members still enthusiastic about the January hoedown, hosted by Western Star Dancers in San Francisco on the 26th and the even more recent CCS workshops, potluck (whichever one you were invited to), and hoedown, called by Jett Roberts on February 2nd. At both events bay area and CCS club members were able to join in some great square dancing and fellowship.

Both our Mainstream and Plus classes are nearing completion, and those who have stuck it out are enjoying the combined efforts of Robin, Kris, Harlan, and themselves. Now they can actually enjoy square dancing to great callers without having to worry about every movement they make, well without having to worry too much.

As they continue on, they will find themselves even more prepared for the 10th Anniversary Retreat at Fife's in April and the IAGSDC Convention at Miami in May. At that point they will realize that all the work has been worth it and that many years of continued learning and dancing enjoyment and satisfaction lie ahead.

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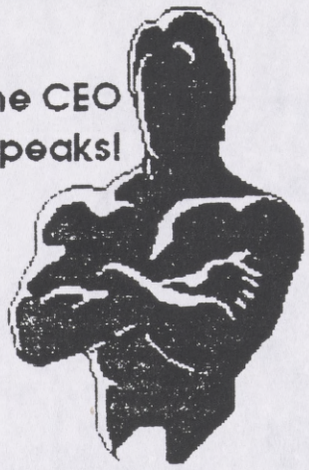
The CEO Speaks!



(Does ANYONE know how to shut this guy up?)

We are sailing into the new year! (In spite of having no water upon which to do so.) It looks like the club is goin' great — lotsa excited people doin' exciting things (Oh my goodness!). This year's beginning class is well into Mainstream, learning quickly and moving fast; the Plus class is about finished! This is wonderful! Now all there is to do is dance, dance, dance! I am really excited about this (yes, I'm aware I've over-used "excite" and variations, but I really, really am excited — and if I sound like a "Valley Girl," well, my family's been in this valley for "close on to" a hunnert and thirty years).

The Board is busily setting up next year's schedule, partly 'cuz there's a movement afoot amongst the IAGSDC to set schedules and thereby correlate with each other, and partly (mostly) 'cuz this is the time o' year for that sorta thing! It looks as though next year will be very nearly a duplicate of this year as to events (which is very nearly a duplicate of last year: it works — "if it ain't broke, don't fix it!"). The main events (New Member Hoedown, Potluck/Hoedowns in December, February, and June, and the Retreat) are "sketched in" close to this year's datewise. If you've got reservations about the dates or ideas, TELL US NOW!! Beyond this, we need places for potluck/dances — homes or (cheap!) halls — to promote the social end o' things. Matter o' fact, we need a place (or places) for February, March, April, May, etc. for these potluck/dances. While this may be easier once the weather warms up ('cuz we can be outdoors), it'd be great to have a garage or family room to dance in once or twice in the next few months — think about it — rack those brains! All we need is a place for a square or two, someplace to set out food (CAN'T forget food!), and access to 120 volts or so.

FIFE'S — Is coming together — "applications" oughta be out soon. While prices have not been confirmed with Fife's itself, it looks as though it'll run 10% higher than last year — don't quote me on this as it ain't written in stone (only on paper), but we will hold costs down as much as possible. Remember, this is our 10th Anniversary, so plan to be there. We be gonna have Fun!

CAST A SHADOW — Believe it or not, the other end of May ain't that far removed from here. The Florida gang have really sweat their butts off (do we get to confirm this — kinda a hands on sorta thing ...) to bring us a great Convention. Through the trials and tribulations thrust upon them by the vagaries of the Three Fates, they have persevered, struggled, sweat, and otherwise given their all to pull this together! Let's do our damnedest to support 'em. Go GO GO!

I gotta tell ya! Western Stars sure know how to put on a dance!! Their "Outta the Blue" dance (well, what would you call it?!) with Vern Weese on the 26th was outstanding! They sure got that together, short notice or no. It was very exciting to see 25 (by two separate counts) Cap City/Prime 8's members there! Everyone who went can tell ya what a blast it was. Thanks WSD for a great event! And thank you, Vern Weese, for a great evening of calling!

Well, procrastination does have its reward — by not getting this to our illustrious editor until Sat p.m., I'm able to comment on our own workshop/potluck/hoedown "Wheel Around With Jett Roberts." It's great to see all those folks dancin' the day away. The mainstream workshop went really well. The groups had few problems, certainly fewer than Jett's turntable, which broke its needle! While this forced a bit of impromptu workshop without music for a while, we showed Jett's turntable who's boss — the CCS club turntable, that's who! Once switched, all went smoothly. I even managed to dance the very last tip. The Plus Class workshop was lotsa fun — I could relax, and everyone danced well, including me (well, mebbe not dancing well, but I was able to dance more! I think I got in three whole tips!). Garsh, it was fun. It was also wonderful to see our own ranks matched by attendees from the bay area.

Continued on Page 4

February Board Minutes

January 30, 1991

The meeting was held at Kenric and Rory's "Town" house and began at 7:10 p.m. Present were George, Bill, David, Kennc, Rory, Cindy, Kris, Rich, Rick, Larry, Mary Jo, and Bev.

The first item on the agenda was our 10th Anniversary Retreat at Fife's. George has been in contact with the manager and is working out the details. It appears that the cost will be approximately $60 for members (this does not include a price for a club dinner). George has written a letter to the manager to firm up things. More details will follow.

Next Larry told the Board he would be willing to bring his sound system to the Hoedown for music, two-steppin' and line dancin' during breaks. The Board unanimously accepted his gracious offer. Since this newsletter is "post hoedown," I can assure you that a great time was had by all, and Larry's Intermezzo was a great hit. Many thanks, Larry — can we do it again?

Also, Rory and Kenric agreed to bring a TV and VCR to the hoedown so that various tapes of previous functions could be viewed. After seeing many people huddled around the TV and being personally asked to move my ——— several times (it ain't that big!!!), I can assume that the videos were also a big hit. Thank you. Rory and Kenric, for bringing the equipment, and by the way, the decorations were lovely.

The fourth item on the agenda was the "shirts" issue. Tom Sachs has ordered some catalogues from western wear distributors. He will share these with the Board, and it is hoped that we can find a suitable shirt to order. See George if you have suggestions and/or comments.

Next, we discussed using our new CCS logo for the badges to be given to our new class members. The Board agreed that (if possible) we will have badges made with the new logo for our Mainstream class members. Not so new members would be able to purchase a new badge.

Cindy then presented the dangles we purchased for our inspection. We will be selling them at hoedowns and other club functions for 75¢ each. See one of the Board members if you are interested.

David L. presented us with an insurance packet to be read by Board members (It looks like about 100 pages — thanks, David). Board members will read the literature and discuss it during Club night. There will then be a general meeting to inform our members about the insurance.

George then confirmed that Harlan Kerr will be at the CCS Club night on February 12, 1991.

Kenric spoke next about our "Birthday Night." He has been picking up the cakes and arranging things thus far, but the Board is soliciting other members to help get cakes, coffee, etc. for our Birthday night. We are desperately in need of volunteers and any help would be greatly appreciated. See Kenric or one of the other Board members if you want to help.

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The News Organ of the Capital City Squares
P.O. Box 19986
Sacramento, CA 95819
Editor, Bill McCrory
The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily the views of the CCS Board

Class/Club Dues:
$90 a year; $10 a month
Due on the 15th of the month
Newsletter only: $12 a year

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Club History
Kenric Brown, History Liaison & Party Chairman

CEO SPEAKS Continued from Page 2

Thanks for joining us!

Our potluck was attended by most of the folks who attended the Plus workshop, and we had lots of fun — especially while watching the video of last fall's WSD retreat to Camp Cazadero. There were goings-on that tape that I don't remember!

Right after dinner, Larry Kellogg generously gave of this time and equipment to give us 45 minutes of two-stepping along with some welcome instruction! Larry also filled in during the breaks at the hoedown — Thanks Larry — it was a great addition.

The Hoedown — what can I say! Jett, you did a wonderful job during the classes, running us through the calls and strengthening weak spots, but you surpassed yourself with your fantastic efforts at the hoedown. Everyone had a great time — few other activities will make me enjoy sweating like that! (Don't ask which!!) That was an incredible evening of fun and frolic. Thank you, Jett, for all that wonderful, wonderful calling!

Kenric and his "little fairy helpers" are to be lauded for their efforts in decorating the hall! A lot of work went into stringing all that crepe paper and crinolines (and since crepe does stretch, several people could be seen running stealthily around stapling up drooping streamers all night). It looked great, Kenric and Co. Thanks!

One "un-bright" spot for the day. I was a bit disappointed at the reduced numbers of attendees from the Mainstream workshop to be found at the potluck. I guess this is "understandable" in that there was a "by-invitation-only" (my phrase) potluck dinner at the same time elsewhere. My only observation here is that there really is much more to square dancing than eight people stumbling around in a set pattern. There is another, much more social level to square dancing. Many people from the Mainstream class maybe didn't realize that the potluck in the midst of the day was for that purpose — a chance to relax and to get to know one another and the many wonderful people from the bay area on a non-dance level. It is unfortunate that you were not aware of that level of the social event we call square dancing. For those who knew this and ignored it, it is just sad. Either way, you missed a golden opportunity and a lot of quiet fun!

Again, thanks everyone for the fun we're havin!

See ya dancin"!

❧ George

BOARD MINUTES Continued From Page 3

The last item on the agenda was our New Members Hoedown. The Board agreed that we would like to hold it the last Saturday of August at Coloma Center. David L. will be handling the contract.

Our dashing treasurer reports that we have $2847 in the treasury.

The meeting adjourned at 8.20 p.m. — our next meeting time and place to be announced as we forgot to discuss it!

Respectfully Submitted,

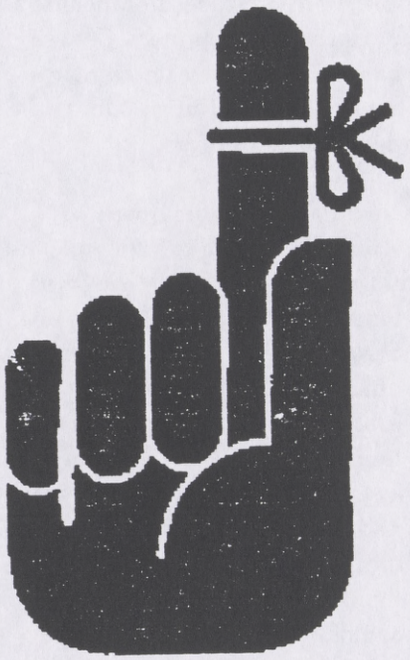
❧ Mary Jo Semmelmayer, Secretary

February Birthdays

2 **Lisa Clay**

15 **Tammy Coddington**

27 **Kris Corbridge**



RoomMate Wanted

James Ozanich, newly arrived from San Francisco, is looking for a roommate to share expenses. See James for more information.

What to Do When the Square Breaks Down

Someone forgot the definition, or didn't hear the call, or didn't see the formation, or got too far behind, or something. You tried to help — pointing, directing (gently!), continuing to dance your part — but to no avail. The square has broken down. What should you do?

Firxt, a few things you should *not* do. Don't stand around discussing it. If you made the mistake, don't make excuses. Your friends will love you anyway, your enemies won't, and excuses just draw attention to the fact that you goofed. If you didn't make the mistake, don't try to identify who did. Next time, it coulld be you. If there's something you don't understand, wait for the break to discuss it. When the caller is calling, you want to be dancing, not analyzing.

Once it's clear the breakdown is irrevocable, square up quickly, in your home position with your original partner. From here you could just wait for the next Allemande Left, but you'll get dancing quicker if you form facing lines. There is a specific way to do this. After you're squared up, the Heads, as a couple, should slide right, almost as if they were circling right, to stand beside the Sides, who move over slightly. Head Girls will be standing next to their corners and Head Boys will be looking at their corners, with everyone facing side walls. The next time the call says "up to the middle and back," you'll be ready to dance.

There are two reasons for using this specific method. First, it prevents time–consuming waffling while the Heads and Sides, a la Alphonse and Gaston, decide who's going to slide right. Second, this particular formation is a standard set–up called zero lines. A caller who sees that a square is broken down will try to get the other squares into zero lines quickly so the broken square can start dancing with everyone else. If the other squares are in zero lines and you're in some other type of line, your square won't resolve properly at the end of the sequence. This isn't the end of the world, of course, but it's nice to come out right.

For beginning dancers — indeed, for anyone but the most experienced dancers — this is all you need to know about repairing your square. If you're in a particularly experienced and skillful square, however, you can get more exotic. If you've just re–squared up and you hear Ferris Wheel, the Heads can slide in front of the Sides to form a beginning double pass thru formation. If you hear Couples Circulate, the Heads can lead right and veer left to form two–faced lines. If the formation is a quarter–tag, the Heads can pass the ocean. The reason for the Heads to take the initiative in these cases is to avoid indecision and waffling. You won't be in a standard set–up like zero lines, and probably won't resolve, but at least you'll be dancing. Unless you're in a strong square, however, you should stick to the zero lines method. The other techniques require quick thinking and sharp observation on the part of all dancers, and can easily fail if one or two dancers don't know what's going on.

You'll often see Challenge dancers simply waiting for Allemande Left rather than trying to get moving again. This is because with complex written choreography, each dancer has to be in exactly the right spot for the sequence to work. Forming any old facing lines won't do. If several dancers can identify their counterparts in another square, you can sometimes re–create the formation. It's worth trying if the other squares slow down for any reason, but it's a complex process to attempt on the fly.

Even if you don't manage to get dancing again before Allemande Left, there is one more thing you can do. In non–IAGSDC clubs I've often seen dancers briefly applaud the successful squares at the end of the sequence, acknowledging their success in getting through a tough set of calls. I think it's a nice touch, and would like to see more IAGSDC clubs do it. After all, the next square being applauded might be yours.

❧ Jana Hollingsworth
in the October 31, 1990, edition of her newsletter, *Sidetrack: a Periodical of Quarterlies and Spiritual Advice*

Coming Events

* signifies an ostensibly "straight" event

February

2 Workshops/Potluck/Hoedown (Jett Roberts), Capital City Squares, Sacramento
6 WSD Dance (Ron Libby), Western Star Dancers, San Francisco
9 *PACE Dance (Ron Libby), Bay Area
16 A2 Dance (George Monaghan), Prime 8's, Sacramento
15–17 6th Annual Rain Festival Fly-In (Pete Diven & Ray Brendzy), Puddletown Dancers, Seattle
15–17 *Advanced & Challenge Dance (Bob Fisk), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle

March

5–10 *Pace Weekend (Dave Stevens), Bay Area
9 Fifth Anniversary Party, Gold Rush, San Francisco
15–17 *Advanced & Challenge Dance (Dave Lightly), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle
16 WSD 9th Anniversary Dance (Paul Infanti), San Francisco

April

4–7 "Scoot Back Again" (Joe Uebelacker & Tim Crawford), Triangle Squares, Tononto
5–7 *Advanced & Challenge Spectacular (Anne Uebelacker), Napa, CA
6 WSD Dance (Mike DeSisto), WSD, San Francisco
19–21 10th Anniversary Celebration & Russian River Retreat (Harlan Kerr), Capital City Squares, Fife's, Guerneville
19–21 *Advanced & Challenge Dance (Ed Foote), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle

May

3–5 Rehoboth Beach Fly-In, Chesapeake Squares, Baltimore
3–5 Spring Round Up Fly-In, Squares Across the Border, Vancouver
17–19 *Advanced & Challenge Dance (Ron Libby), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle
24–26 *38th Golden State Round Up, annual Northern CA Sq Dancers Assoc convention, Oakland Convention Center (next to Oakland Hyatt Regency)
24–27 Cast a Shadow in the Sun, 8th IAGSDC Convention, Miaaami
31–6/1 *Dynamite Weekend (Dave Stevens), TNT's, Roseville

June

8 Graduation Workshops/Potluck/Hoedown, Capital City Squares, Sacramento
15–16 *Advanced & Challenge Dance (Jonny Preston), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle
20–22 *25th National Advanced & Challenge Square Dance Convention, Virginia Beach, VA
27–29 *40th National Square Dance Convention, Salt Lake City, UT
30 San Francisco Gay Pride Day

August

2–4 Geoduck Fly-In, Puddletown Squares, Seattle
23–25 English Bay Round Up & Boat Cruise, Squares Across the Border, Vancouver

September

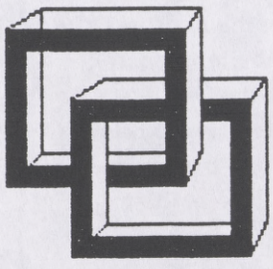
6–8 Fly-In (combined with Southern California Regional Gay Rodeo), Finest City Squares, San Diego
20–22 Leather Weekend, San Francisco
27–29 Huajatolla Showdown Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus & The Wilde Bunch, Walsenburg, CO —

Late October

First Fly-In, Alamo City Wranglers, San Antonio, TX — Tentative

November

8–10 Annual Fly-In, DC Lambda Squares, Washington, DC
29–12/1 Anniversary Dance & Fly-In, Squares Across the Border, Vancouver



5212 Roseana Court
Fair Oaks, Ca. 95628
(916) 961-7054

DECEMBER 10, 1990

CAPITAL CITY SQUARES
C/O GEORGE FOX
P.O. BOX 19986
SACRAMENTO, CA. 95819

DEAR CAPITAL SQUARES,

I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR HAVING ME CALL YOUR DECEMBER WORKSHOP AND DANCE. I ENJOYED EVERYONE AND EVERYONE SEEMED TO BE HAVING A GOOD TIME. IT WAS A PLEASURE TO DO ALL THE SESSIONS FOR YOU.

JUDY AND I THANK YOU FOR THE HOSPITALITY AND FRIENDLINESS SHOWN. YOU DID A GREAT JOB WITH THE DECORATIONS, THE ATMOSPHERE WAS ONE OF FUN. IT MAKES FOR A SUPER TIME WHEN PEOPLE ARE OUT TO ENJOY THEMSELVES AND MAKE THEIR GUESTS FEEL WELCOME.

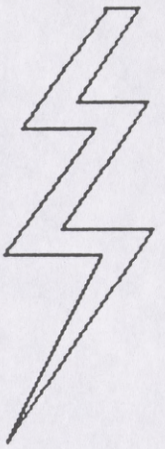
I HOPE YOUR CLUB HAS MANY MORE SUCCESSFUL DANCES. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO CALLING FOR YOU AGAIN IN JUNE OF 1991.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL.

SINCERELY,

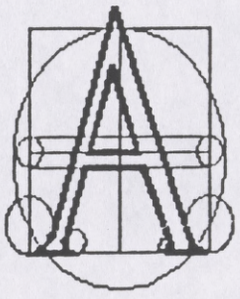
JOE KULA

Prime 8's



PRESENT

George Monaghan



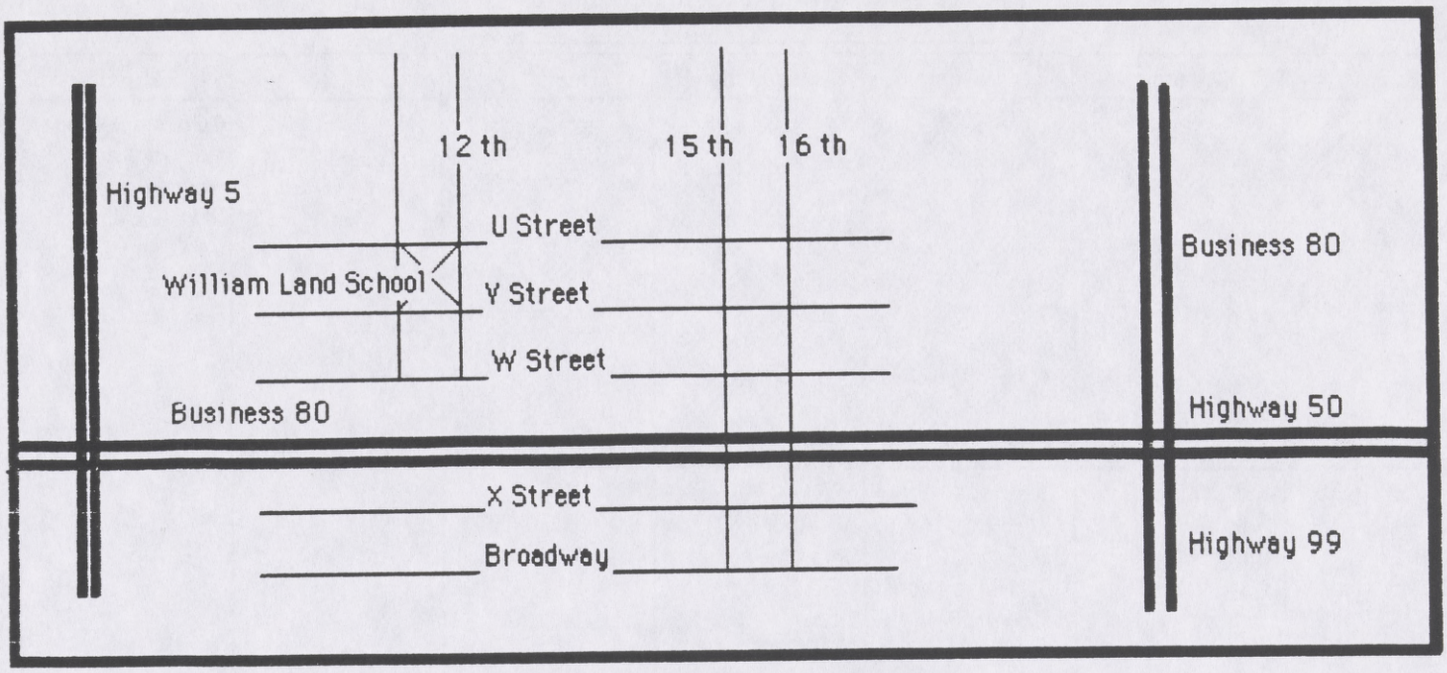
2 dance

7:00 .. 10:00 $5.00

Saturday, Feb 16
Central United Methodist Church
53rd & H Streets
Sacramento, California
(916) 446-4396 for more info

February 1991

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	CCS Workshops, Potluck, and Hoedown with Jett Roberts Wm Land School 2
FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF MS Live Oak School SF 3	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School 4	FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School CCS Class Night 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School 5	ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD Dance Ron Libby 7:30-9:30 St. Paulus Church SF 6	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville 7	8	9
FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF MS Live Oak School SF 10	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School 11	FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School CCS Class Night 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School 12	ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD Basics Class 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF 13	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville 14	15-17 Rain Festival Seattle 15	Prime 8's A2 Dance with George Monaghan 7:00-10:00 Central United Methodist Church, 53rd & H Streets 16
FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF MS Live Oak School SF 17	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School 18	FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School CCS Class Night 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School 19	ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD Basics Class 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF 20	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville 21	22	23
FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF MS Live Oak School SF 24	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School 25	FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School CCS Class Night 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School 26	ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD Basics Class 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF 27	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville 28		



SHOULDER WORK AHEAD

JEFF M. RAMOS
CERTIFIED MASSAGE THERAPIST
(916) 485-0930

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

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P.O. Box 19986
Sacramento, CA 95819

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